

5 Ways to Celebrate Pentecost at Home

~by Flo Oakes, Director of Children's Spiritual Formation at St. Mary of Bethany

I admit that sometimes as a parent, as a children's minister, and even as an Anglican, I wonder if it really matters what we teach our families about the church calendar. Do they really get it? How important is it?

Eastertide and Pentecost are a great reminder for me not to underestimate these opportunities! I've seen that children hold a natural wonder and excitement (and sometimes skepticism) for nearly everything, and a good way to show children that they belong, that they are whole and valuable members of God's Kingdom, is to share these liturgies and calendar days together—rather than gloss over them.

As Easter comes to a close, we look forward to Pentecost (the day we remember and celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' followers). Here are some quarantine-friendly ways to celebrate at home as a family:

1. *Feast Together* -- It is a feast day, after all! Pick out your favorite feast foods and break bread together. Use red napkins at the table. Afterward, put on your favorite music and hold a living room dance party. Maybe even wear red. *Ask: I wonder how the disciples felt when God gave them the gift of the Holy Spirit?*

2. *Listen Together* -- Grab a blanket and sit outside on the grass. Close your eyes. Pay attention to the physical sensations of being outside. Do you hear any birdcalls? Is it windy outside? Can you hear the rustling of the grass in the breeze or feel the wind on your skin?

Ask: I wonder if there is anything about being outside that reminds you of God?

3. *Read Together* -- Light a candle and read the story of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-2) together as a family. Depending on the ages of your family members, you could read from a storybook Bible or straight from scripture (for older members, you could read Acts 2 in its entirety). You might even consider lighting a bonfire outdoors if you are able. *Ask: I wonder if the disciples were afraid of the fire?*

4. *Create Together* -- We see the Holy Spirit represented at times as fire, wind, and even a dove. Younger children may enjoy making a pinwheel like this and seeing what happens on a breezy day. We can't see the wind, but we can see what happens to a pinwheel when the wind turns it.

Ask: We can't see wind, but we know it's there—I wonder if that reminds you of anything else?

Very small children might like to make a dove craft like this using their hands:

Ask: I wonder why God sometimes used a dove to represent the Holy Spirit?

5. *Sing Together* -- God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to the disciples on Pentecost—can you imagine how they had felt up to this point, waiting for this promised gift, wondering what in the world was going on after their world had been turned upside down? How they longed to hear from their friend, Jesus! We are currently in a time of waiting as well. We long to hear from God in these strange and unprecedented days. "Spirit of the Living God," by Audrey Assad, reminds us that God is the same God then and now. It's God's voice and breath that we have always longed for. Sometimes God's voice is clear and sometimes we wonder where God is—or if God is even with us at all. Children feel all of these things, too. Consider learning/singing this song together as a family.

Ask: I wonder if there is a time you can remember when you heard from God, or when God felt close?

A Timely Celebration -- Now, more than ever, it is an excellent time to talk about the church calendar—to remember the things God has done and to bring some rhythm and punctuation to the seemingly never-ending days we are experiencing. And may we remember that the God who sent wind and fire is the same God who speaks in a still, small voice—ever with us, in every moment of our year.

Article courtesy: <https://c4so.org/5-ways-to-celebrate-pentecost-at-home/>



Giving has never been easier! Visit:
<https://www.christthegoodshep.org/pages/give>
 Or download the Tithe.ly app from the appstore
 on your phone.

Willamette Lutheran Retirement community
 needs help with kitchen and food prep.
 They are having severe staffing issues. If
 you are able and willing to help, please call
 Raeann McDonald @503-393-1491

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Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is on CT Channel 23.

Traditional: Wednesday 9:00 am Friday 9:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am Sunday 1:00 pm
Contemporary: Monday 9:00 am Thursday 9:00 pm
Saturday 3:00 pm Sunday 6:00 am

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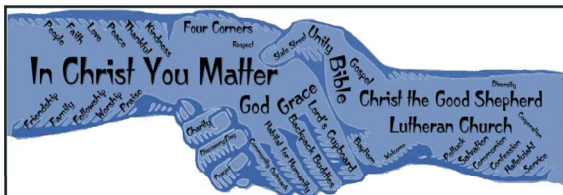
Financial Report as of end of March

General Offering \$35,705
Budget \$39,879
(\$4,174)

In a special meeting April 4, voters
approved the internship of
Sena Norton.

Sena will be joining us in the fall and
will have the title of "Vicar."

~More details will be coming soon~



Zoom Outreach Meeting

May 1 10 AM

Zoom ID:

Meeting ID: 823 2680 4809

Passcode: 164756

Join us each week on Zoom at 10
AM for worship, communion, and
fellowship. The Zoom app can be
downloaded to your phone or tablet
or used on your PC or laptop.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83761159516>
Meeting ID: 837 6115 9516
Dial in: (253) 215-8782



Family in Christ - some of you know and some do not.

In the last months we have incurred extra cost due to repairs to the elevator, and now the heating systems need a tune up. This all goes over and above our budgeted amounts. We need to do the repairs so we can get back in our building safely. We are currently in the process of giving a much needed fresh look to the interior of Christ house. I guess what I am saying if you should have a passion to help our funding of these projects, Thank you in advance. We also know that we miss getting together, we pray that this does not go on much longer. God Bless.

Your Property Team

ARE YOU A THINKER OR A DOER

(or maybe you are both)

by Virginia Mohr, Treasurer

For this volunteer position you need to be comfortable with a computer, the rest you can learn! You will need to be organized and take the position seriously. This position has become more organized and much less difficult over the past 2-3 years.

I am talking about the church treasurer position. WAIT. . . don't stop reading yet!!

I will work with you until you are comfortable to take things over on your own. After that you can get help from me or Sheila our bookkeeper. Sheila has taken over some of the tasks that were previously done by the treasurer. Partly to make the position easier but mostly because we need to have two people looking at our books for oversight reasons.

Treasurer is not a permanent position it is a one year term that can be renewed three times.

Please prayerfully consider this position and call, email or text if you would like to talk.

Helpful Resources for May 2021

May is Mental Health Awareness month. This month's helpful resources is focused on mental well-being.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) is one of the largest organizations in the nation that supports and provides help to those in need, and those who love them.

<https://afsp.org>

Northwest Human Services has mental health programs for children, adults, and family.

<http://www.northwesthumanservices.org/West-Salem-Mental-Health-Clinic.html>

If you have lost a loved one to suicide, the Alliance of Hope is a place to find healing, resources, and friendships. <https://allianceofhope.org>

Better Together Racial Justice *New Time and Date*

We've all heard in the news of the recent atrocities of gun violence. Particularly alarming was the event in Atlanta that targeted Asian women. Our country is gradually waking up to the level of persistent racism against Asian Americans. As part of *Better Together* among the three Lutheran churches in Salem, our next *Racial Justice Gathering* will focus on Anti Asian racism. Our guest will be Carrie Lee Brown, a retired school councilor. Carrie is Chinese, born in Cuba. She will share her experiences of racism along with her perspective of the history of racism against Asians in Oregon.



We will gather by zoom on May 5th at 6:00 PM.

Meeting ID: 846 7683 6079 Passcode: 403323 Dial-in Numbers: 1 (669) 900-6833 or (253) 215-8782.

May marks 2 years since my return to CGSLC, and I want to focus on gratitude. I give thanks daily for my role here, and the many blessings it provides. I couldn't do my work without the support of a whole bunch of you.

This past year has been a specifically unique challenge. We have all had to innovate and overcome, and through it this church has continued to be church. Much work is done behind the scenes, and deserves recognition. Because of the efforts of a handful of dedicated people, CGSLC has remained a vibrant and hard-working church. Thanks to the whole council, and especially Gwen Carr, for all of your time, hard work, thinking, and innovation. Heidi DuPuis has stepped up to do worship planning and coordinating and Zoom technical support, and that has made a huge difference. Virginia Mohr has massively upgraded and streamlined the treasurer's job and technology extensively, and Ron Mohr's support behind the scenes is probably not noticed by many, but is always appreciated.

Dean Hatzenbihler, Mike Kohn, and the whole Tuesday Crew continue to manage and upgrade the church buildings. Our property and buildings are like a member of our congregation, and the care and maintenance and managing of its many needs have kept the property healthy and vibrant. The efforts of the Lord's Cupboard, Outreach Group, and Backpack Buddies have continued, and those that support those programs have kept working. There are too many to list you individually. Thank you for continuing to feed and support our neighbors and congregation.

Special appreciation to Twila Anderson and Inez Ambrosek for editing and critical feedback. Thank you for traveling through another year with me. I am looking forward to the next.

~~Rose



office@
christthegoodshep.org



**Wi-fi now available
in the church
building!**

**Connection info is posted in
the Gathering Room cabinets,
and in the Narthex.**

**Our Lil' Free Library is
popular!**

**Please donate new and gently used
children's books, Bibles, and
Spanish language items, and other
gently used books. Contact the
office or a member of council about
drop off or pick up.**

Lord's Cupboard is OPEN!

**Saturdays 1 to 3:30 PM
Trinity United Methodist
590 Elma Ave SE**

Drive-Thru



**Pick up from NORTH SIDE of church porch on
Four Corners School parking lot**

Council Highlights

Council is working toward the possibility of resuming outside services sometime in June. Planning includes closely monitoring Marion County Covid regulations for gatherings, checking our own vaccination rates, working on necessary sanitation and spacing requirements in the Sanctuary, Gathering Room and Basement,

The Annual Meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, June 27th. Annual Reports are due to Rose by June 11th so that the Congregational Report can be produced in preparation for that meeting.

The meeting will include election of new Officers and Council members. If you are willing to have your name placed in nomination, please contact our Secretary, Chuck Palmquist at chuckp22@gmail.com or (503) 580-8008. This is a wonderful opportunity to help with the planning for this church as we move forward together past the pandemic and with new Pastoral leadership.

Council discussed next steps forward with new Pastoral leadership beginning in September. The formal paperwork is in progress linking this internship with Luther Seminary and the Oregon Synod. The Council agreed that the designated title for this position is "Vicar" in keeping with current practices within the ELCA.

New Neighbors!! -

by Gwen Carr

If you have been by the church, you have noticed a lot of construction is taking place. This means that within the next 6 months or so we will begin to see our new neighbors moving into the apartments and homes behind the church. God has a plan for them and us. Let us pray for both our futures as we welcome them into our community and invite them into our church family.



View from the west driveway.

View from the upstairs at Christ House



View from the Christ House back yard.



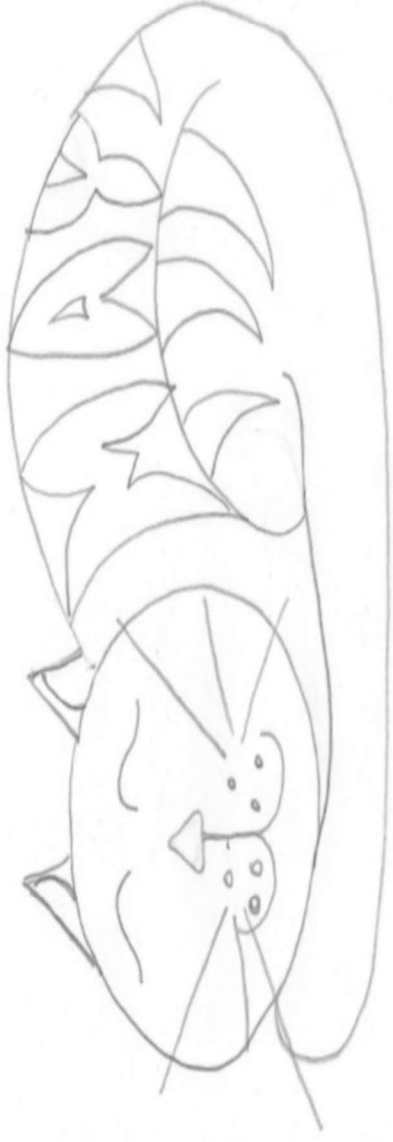
Gerry Chadburn	May 2
Joan Mathias	May 3
Karen Hafner	May 5
George Kafka	May 11
Joel Mathias	May 11
Kay Harris	May 15
Christal Shafer	May 20
Peke Kramyer	May 22
Bentley Sauer	May 27
Paula Davis	May 29
Michelle Shepherd	May 29

Bree P. enjoys a holiday cross craft for Easter. Special thanks to Heidi Pramuk for sending along the cross kits.



To see this photo, and share your pictures, join our Cluster. Contact Rose for an invite.





April 2021							June 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	1	27	28	29	30	1	2	3

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	26	27	28	29	30	1 10:00 AM Outreach Meeting (Zoom)
2 10:00 AM Zoom Worship (ID: 837 6115 9516)	3	4 9:30 AM Backpack Buddies Packing (Gathering Room)	5 6:00 PM Better Together Racial Justice (Zoom ID: 823 2680 4809)	6	7	8 11:00 AM Endowment Meeting
9 10:00 AM Zoom Worship (ID: 837 6115 9516)	10	11 6:00 PM Executive Meeting	12	13	14	15
16 10:00 AM Zoom Worship (ID: 837 6115 9516)	17	18 9:30 AM Backpack Buddies Packing (Gathering Room) 6:00 PM Council Meeting (Gathering Room)	19	20	21	22
23 10:00 AM Pentecost Zoom Worship - (ID: 837 6115 9516)	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 10:00 AM Zoom Worship (ID: 837 6115 9516)	31	1	2	3	4	5

Meetings are virtual at this time.